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Bill Bartnik Named Vice President of Manufacturing at Sargento Foods

PLYMOUTH, Wis. – May 24, 2016 – [Sargento Foods Inc.](http://www.sargento.com) announces William (Bill) Bartnik has been promoted to Vice President of Manufacturing in the Operations Division.

Bill's promotion comes after 16 years with the Sargento family, starting as a Manufacturing Engineer and growing into a Production Manager for the Shredded Cheese product line. He then held the role of Plant Manager in Plymouth for 11 years before leading the manufacturing systems unit.

"Please join me in congratulating Bill on his well-deserved promotion," said Louie Gentine, CEO of Sargento Foods. "I am confident his collaborative leadership style and strong knowledge of manufacturing will continue to strengthen the division."

Bill will be responsible for directing and coordinating manufacturing activities, working closely with the Senior Vice President of Manufacturing and Engineering to help formulate and administer policies and objectives. He'll focus on plant operations to ensure efficient performance, high food safety standards, personnel safety, employee satisfaction and on-time customer delivery.

Most recently at Sargento, Bill served as the Director of Manufacturing Systems, where he identified and led many continuous improvement initiatives across all plants. He also champions the company's involvement in the Manufacturing All Stars program to promote manufacturing as a career. Prior to Sargento, Bill worked at Oscar Mayer and Kraft Foods for 12 years.

He earned his Master of Business Administration from St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, and his Bachelor's in Industrial Technology with a concentration in Manufacturing Engineering from University of Wisconsin – Stout in Menomonie. Bill will report to Mike McEvoy, Executive Vice President of Operations.

About Sargento Foods Inc.

Sargento Foods Inc. has demonstrated its passion for cheese and cheese-based meal solutions for more than 60 years. Founded in 1953 in Plymouth, Sargento is a leading manufacturer, packager and marketer of natural shredded, sliced and snack cheeses, cheese appetizers, ingredients, sauces and other culinary solutions. Sargento is owned and operated by the Gentine family, has net sales exceeding \$1 billion and more than 1,800 employees. For more information, please visit www.sargento.com.